[A machine readable medium according to claim 1,] wherein said display step further includes a sub-step for displaying on said display means characters describing the name of each of said image forming apparatuses and characters describing a corresponding location at which [each] the respective one of said image forming apparatuses is installed. [installed on said display means.]

9. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium on which is recorded a program for selecting a desired input-output apparatus from a plurality of input-output apparatuses connected to a network, [network is recorded,] said program [comprises:] comprising:

a first display step for classifying said input-output apparatuses into a plurality of categories with different functions and displaying said functions on a display means as items of selection; and

a second display step [of] for displaying on said display means as items of selection only said input-output apparatuses having one of [said] those functions selected by a user. [user on said display means as items of selection.]

10. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 9, wherein said second display step includes a sub-step for displaying on said display means information indicating whether or not each respective one of said input-output apparatuses is usable. [usable on said display means.]

11. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 9, wherein said second display step

further includes a sub-step for displaying on said display means a map of said network [and] with symbolic marks of said input-output apparatuses on said map, with each symbolic mark representing an [at] installation [locations] location of respective ones of said input-output apparatuses. [apparatuses over said map on said display means.]

12. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said program further includes a step for setting as an apparatus to be used one of said input-output apparatuses represented by one of said symbolic marks as selected by a user. [user as an apparatus to be used.]

13. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said second display step further includes a sub-step [of] for displaying on said display means at locations in close proximity to each one of said symbolic marks representing said input-output apparatuses information indicating whether or not each of said input-output apparatuses is usable. [usable at a location in close proximity to one of said symbolic marks representing said input-output apparatus on said display means.]

14. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium on which is recorded a program for selecting a desired input-output apparatus from a plurality of input-output apparatuses connected to a [network] network, [is recorded,] said program [comprises:] comprising:

a first display step for classifying said input-output apparatuses into a plurality of categories with

different pieces of [user] document identification information and for displaying on a display means as items of selection said pieces of [user] document identification information; [information on a display means as items of selection;] and

a second display step [of] for displaying on said display means as items of selection only said input-output apparatuses which are capable of receiving a document type specified by a thus displayed document [having one of said pieces of user] identification information which is selected by a user. [user on said display means as items of selection.]

15. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 14, wherein said second display step further includes a sub-step for displaying on said display means information indicating whether or not each of said input-output apparatuses is usable. [usable on said display means.]

16. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 14, wherein said second display step further includes a sub-step [of] for displaying on said display means a map of said network [and] with symbolic marks of said input-output apparatuses on said map, with each symbolic mark representing an [at] installation [locations] location of respective ones of said input-output apparatuses. [apparatuses over said map on said display means.]

17. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 16, wherein said program further includes a step for setting as an apparatus to be used

one of said input-output apparatuses represented by a corresponding one of said symbolic marks as selected by a user. [user as an apparatus to be used.]

18. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 16, wherein said second display step further includes a sub-step for displaying on said display means at locations in close proximity to each one of said symbolic marks representing said image forming apparatuses information indicating whether or not each of said input-output apparatuses is usable. [usable at a location in close proximity to one of said symbolic marks representing said input-output apparatus on said display means.]

19. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium on which is recorded a program for selecting a desired image forming apparatus from a plurality of image forming apparatuses connected to a [network] network, [is recorded,] said program [comprises:] comprising:

a select step for selecting as an output destination one of said image forming apparatuses designated by the user; [user as an output destination;]

a judgment step for judging whether or not said image forming apparatus set at said select step is capable of carrying out printing; and

a display step for displaying on a display means installation locations of said image forming apparatuses which are capable of carrying out printing to serve as a substitute for said image forming apparatus set at said select step [on a display means] in case an outcome of said judgment formed at said judgment step indicates that

said image forming apparatus set at said select step is not capable of carrying out printing.

20. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 19, wherein said display step further includes a sub-step [of] for displaying on said display means a map of said network [and] with symbolic marks of said image forming apparatuses on said map, with each symbolic mark representing an [at] installation [locations] location of respective ones of said image forming apparatus. [apparatuses over said map on said display means.]

21. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 20, wherein said program further includes a step for setting as an output destination an image forming apparatus represented by a corresponding one of said symbolic marks selected by the user. [user as an apparatus to be used.]

22. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 19, wherein said display step further includes a sub-step [of] for displaying on said display means characters describing the name of each of said image forming apparatuses and characters describing a location at which each of said image forming apparatuses is installed. [installed on said display means.]

25. (Once Amended) An input-output apparatus selecting method for selecting a desired input-output apparatus from a plurality of input-output apparatuses connected to a network system, said input-output apparatus selecting method comprising:

a step for classifying said input-output apparatuses connected to said network system into a plurality of categories with different functions and for displaying said functions on a display means as items of selection; and

a step for displaying on said display means as items of selection only said input-output apparatuses having one of said functions selected by the user. [user on said display means as items of selection.]

26. (Once Amended) An input-output apparatus selecting method for selecting a desired input-output apparatus from a plurality of input-output apparatuses connected to a network system wherein said apparatuses are cataloged by classifying said apparatuses into groups identified by [user] document identification codes, said input-output apparatus selecting method comprising:

a step for displaying said [user] document identification codes on a display means as items of selection; and

a step for displaying on said display means as items of selection only said input-output apparatuses cataloged in one of said groups identified by one of said [user] document identification codes selected by the user. [user on said display means as items of selection.]

27. (Once Amended) An image forming apparatus selecting method for selecting a desired image forming apparatus from a plurality of image forming apparatuses connected to a network system, said image forming apparatus selecting method comprising:

a select step for setting as an output destination one of said image forming apparatuses selected by the

user; [user as an output destination;]

a judgment step for forming a judgment as to whether or not said image forming apparatus set at said select step is capable of carrying out printing; and

a display step for displaying on a display means installation locations of said image forming apparatuses which are capable of carrying out printing to serve as a substitute for said image forming apparatus set at said select step [on a display means] in case an outcome of said judgment formed at said judgment step indicates that said image forming apparatus set at said select step is not capable of carrying out printing.

30. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium on which is recorded a program for selecting an input-output apparatus from a plurality of input-output apparatuses connected to a network, said program comprising:

a layout diagram displaying step for displaying on a display means a layout diagram of a room;

an icon displaying step for displaying icons as items of selection over said layout diagram displayed on said display means at said layout diagram displaying step, each icon representing one of said input-output apparatuses at locations corresponding to actual installation locations of said input-output apparatuses in said room; and

an input-output selecting step for selecting as an input-output destination one of said input-output apparatuses represented by an icon selected from said icons displayed at said icon displaying step,

[A machine readable medium according to claim 28,] wherein said layout diagram is received from another

one of said input-output apparatuses through said network.

31. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium on which is recorded a program for selecting an input-output apparatus from a plurality of input-output apparatuses connected to a network, said program comprising:

a layout diagram displaying step for displaying on a display means a layout diagram of a room;

an icon displaying step for displaying icons as items of selection over said layout diagram displayed on said display means at said layout diagram displaying step, each icon representing one of said input-output apparatuses at locations corresponding to actual installation locations of said input-output apparatuses in said room; and

an input-output selecting step for selecting as an input-output destination one of said input-output apparatuses represented by an icon selected from said icons displayed at said icon displaying step,

[A machine readable medium according to claim 28,]

wherein said layout diagram comprises a plurality of layout diagrams organized as layers at different levels composing a hierarchical structure.

33. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium on which is recorded a program written for a network system to which a plurality of input-output apparatuses and a plurality of computers are connected, [connected is recorded], said program [comprises:] comprising:

a first step for classifying said input-output apparatuses into a plurality of categories having different functions and displaying said functions on a

display means as items of selection;

a second step for displaying on said display means as items of selection only said input-output apparatuses [pertaining] corresponding to one of said categories having a function selected from said functions displayed at said first step; [step on said display means as items of selection;] and

a third step for specifying as an input-output destination an input-output apparatus selected from said input-output apparatuses displayed at said second step. [step as an input-output destination.]

34. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 33, wherein said program further comprises:

a step for displaying on said display means a layout image representing locations of said input-output apparatuses; [apparatuses on said display means;]

a step for displaying icons as items of selection over said layout image displayed on said display means, each icon representing one of said input-output apparatuses at locations corresponding to actual installation locations of said input-output apparatuses; [apparatuses over said layout image displayed on said display means as items of selection;] and

a step for selecting as an input-output destination one of said input-output apparatuses represented by an icon selected from said icons. [icons as an input-output destination.]

35. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 33, wherein said program further comprises:

a step for creating a plurality of images or tables each showing installation locations of said input-output apparatuses on layers of different levels forming a hierarchical structure and storing said hierarchical structure;

a step for displaying a high level image or a high level table on one of said layers at a high level in said hierarchical structure wherein said high level image or said high level table shows items of selection; and

a step for displaying a low level image or a low level table on another one of said layers at a level immediately lower than said high level in said hierarchical structure wherein said low level image or said low level table is determined by an item selected from said items of selection shown in said high level image or said high level table.

37. (Once Amended) An input-output apparatus specifying method to be adopted in a network system for connecting a plurality of computers and a plurality of input-output apparatuses, said input-output apparatus specifying method comprising:

a function displaying step for classifying said input-output apparatuses into a plurality of categories with different functions and for displaying said functions on a display means as items of selection;

an apparatus displaying step for displaying on said display means as items of selection only [said] those input-output apparatuses having a function selected from said functions displayed at said function displaying step; [step on said display means as items of selection;] and

an apparatus specifying means for selecting a

desired one of said input-output apparatuses displayed at said apparatus ~~displaying~~ step and for specifying as an input-output destination said selected input-output apparatus. [apparatus as an input-output destination.]

38. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium on which is recorded a program for a network system connecting a plurality of computers and a plurality of input-output apparatuses, [apparatuses is recorded] said program comprises:

a user name displaying step for displaying as items of selection the names of users regularly using said network system; [system as items of selection;]

a user name selecting step for selecting one of said names displayed at said user name displaying step;

an input-output apparatus displaying step for displaying as items of selection only said input-output apparatuses associated with one of said users with the name thereof selected at said user name selecting step; [step as items of selection;] and

an input-output apparatus selecting step for selecting as an input-output destination a desired one of said input-output apparatuses displayed at said input-output apparatus displaying step. [step as an input-output destination.]

39. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 38, wherein said user name displaying step further includes a sub-step [of] for displaying the names of said users on a layout diagram along with icons each representing one of said input-output apparatuses.

40. (Once Amended) A machine readable medium according to claim 38, said program further includes:

a step for creating a plurality of images or tables each showing installation locations of said input-output apparatuses on layers at different levels forming a hierarchical structure;

a step for displaying a high level image or a high level table on one of said layers at a high level in said hierarchical structure wherein said high level image or said high level table shows items of selection; and

a step for displaying a low level image or a low level table on another one of said layers at a level immediately lower than said high level in said hierarchical structure wherein said low level image or said low level table is determined by an item selected from said items of selection shown in said high level image or said high level table.

41. (Once Amended) An input-output apparatus specifying method to be adopted in a network system for connecting a plurality of computers and a plurality of input-output apparatuses, said input-output apparatus specifying method comprising:

a user name displaying step for displaying as items of selection the names of users regularly using said network system; [system as items of selection;]

a user name selecting step for selecting one of said names displayed at said user name displaying step;

an input-output apparatus displaying step for displaying as items of selection only said input-output apparatuses associated with one of said users with the name thereof selected at said user name selecting step; [step as items of selection;] and

an input-output apparatus selecting step for selecting as an input-output destination a desired one of said input-output apparatuses displayed at said input-output apparatus displaying step. [step as an input-output destination.]

Please add the following new claims:

56. (New) A program that can be read by a computer which has a computer execute the steps of:

selecting a first printer, as an output destination of image data, from among a plurality of printers connected to a network;

determining whether said first printer is currently available or not; and

selecting a second printer, from a plurality of printers connected to a network, as a substitute output apparatus when said first printer is not available.

57. (New) A program according to claim 56, wherein said second printer selected as a substitute output apparatus is located in closest proximity to the user.

58. (New) A program according to claim 56, wherein said second printer selected as a substitute output apparatus exceeds said first printer in function.

59. (New) A program to claim 56, wherein said second printer selected as a substitute output apparatus exceeds said first printer in printing speed.